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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 10611 081139Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08
ICA-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03 /064 W
----------112482 090636Z /15
R 081115Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3400
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10611

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, OCON
SUBJECT: WFC: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. FRIEDRICH OF ICP RETURNED FROM RECENT SUCCESSFUL TRIP TO NY.Y. TO ESTABLISH I.C.P. THERE UNDER UNDP, TOLD US REP JUNE 6, SYG WANTS TO APPOINT WILLIAMS BUT WILL NOT DO SO BEFORE WFC, MUCH TO TANCO'S ANNOYANCE. WHILE DG HAS TOLD SYG HE CAN ACCEPT WILLIAMS, FRIEDRICH AWARE AND BELIEVES SYG AWARE THAT DG, AT SAME TIME ENCOURAGING G-77 BID FOR WFC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOB. THUS, SYG MAY BE UNCERTAIN WHAT KIND OF G-77 REACTION MIGHT BE MOBILIZED IN MEXICO CITY IF HE WERE TO MOVE TOO EARLY.

2. ACCORDING FRIEDRICH, DG ENCOURAGEMENT OF G-77 CANDIDATE IS BASED ON THEORY THAT, AFTER GETTING RID OF ICP AND CGFPI, WFC IS HIS NEXT TARGET FOR ELIMINATION. HE ALSO MAY FIGURE THAT, AT VERY LEAST, HE'LL
GET HIS "BRITO" IN WFC THIS WAY AND GET WALTERS OUT.

3. COMMENT: IN CONTEXT OF POSSIBLE WFC-FAO TENSIONS IF WILLIAMS SELECTED, BELIEVE IT WILL BE PRUDENT TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY DATE OF 1979 WFC. IN VIEW OF WCARRD, WALTERS WAS THINKING, WHEN HE LEFT ROME, OF A SEPTEMBER 1979 WFC, PRECEDED BY CERTAIN WORKING GROUPS IN EARLY 1979 IF HIS PROPOSALS ON INVESTMENT IN FOOD PRODUCTION ENDORSED. WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT A WFC
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AFTER WCARRD AND BEFORE FAO CONFERENCE WOLD UNDOUBTEDLY HEIGHTEN TENSIONS BETWEEN DG AND WFC UNLESS WILLIAMS PROVES EXCEEDINGLY SKILLFUL, AS IT WILL BE SEEN BY DG AS UPSTAGING FAO CONFERENCE AND ITS CLAIMS ON MINISTERIAL TIME AND ATTEN-TION. THIS DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN WE SHOULD AVOID EARLY FALL 1979 WFC BUT IF WE GO THAT WAY IT SHOULD BE WITH AWARE-NESS OF SENSITIVITY OF THAT TIMING, ESPECIALLY IF SESSION IN

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U.S. HOLMES

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